

DRAFT 1
ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING PROJECT TASK FORCE (ESPTF)

Meeting Summary

Meeting # 7
Thursday, November 16, 2000
Prepared by Pat Duffy and Sheryllyn Dougherty

Following is a brief summary of the main points covered at the seventh meeting of the Environmental Sampling Project Task Force (ESPTF). This summary is to be used only as an outline for topics covered. It is not to be considered a comprehensive or editorial review of the meetings. For comprehensive meeting records please refer to the Task Force transcripts, prepared by a court reporter and posted on this web site.

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order. Pamela Sihvola served as a substitute for Member Gene Bernardi, representing the Committee to Minimize Toxic Waste. Eloise Bodine served as a substitute for Fran Packard representing the League of Women Voters.

II. Public Comment Period

Seven members of the public spoke for approximately three (3) minutes each. Please see the full meeting transcript for a record of these comments and all other dialogue in the meeting.

III. Opening Remarks

The facilitators took the floor for a few minutes to offer a summary of the Task Force Process to date. The facilitators discussed feedback they received from Task Force Members during the previous month. The facilitators reported that Task force Members believed that there had been difficulties in communicating technical information, with some Members wanting more information and some less. Other Members commented on the length and complexity of the process. Members stated that the Task Force meetings did not offer enough time for real dialogue.

The facilitators reported that despite the difficulties encountered and the length of the process, Members reported that they had familiarized themselves with the concepts, terms, and issues surrounding the proposed Sampling Plan. Most Members reported that they wished to move on and begin the actual sampling. A few other Members reported no wish to begin sampling at this time.

IV. Tritiations at the NTLF

Philip Williams, Co-Principal Investigator for the National Tritium Labeling Facility (NTLF), took the floor to provide requested information on the number of tritiations done at the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab. Extensive discussion took place on the frequency and nature of tritiations at the NTLF. Please see meeting transcripts for a full record of these discussions and Dr. Williams' replies.

V. Status of IFEU Report

Nabil Al-Hadithy, Member representing the City of Berkeley, made a brief presentation to the Task Force on the final draft of the IFEU report, submitted to the City of Berkeley by Bernd Franke. Please see the meeting transcript for a record of the Task Force discussion of these issues. Dr. Anthony Greenhouse of IFEU also commented on the final draft.

VI. Berkeley Lab Responses to Comments on the Tritium Sampling and Analysis Plan

Task Force Member David McGraw, representing LBNL, made a presentation addressing the Task Force and community comments as they related to the Tritium Analysis and Sampling Plan and ongoing Laboratory programs and activities. He presented LBNL's responses to Task Force and community comments made on three media that are proposed for sampling:

- Surface Water and Sediment
- Vegetation
- Soil

The format for the presentation on each medium was organized as follows:

- Tritium Sampling and Analysis Plan - Proposed sampling
- Ongoing LBNL Programs
- Task force and community comments received to date, followed by Lab responses and revised sampling plan

Mr. McGraw completed his presentations on Surface Water and Sediment and Vegetation. The Soil presentation was not completed. The discussions were long and detailed with numerous questions and answers. Please see the transcript for a full record of the dialogue.

After Mr. McGraw's presentation, the Task Force was polled on proceeding with the sampling. Generally there was agreement that sampling should begin with the understanding that the plan was still under discussion and therefore subject to amendment. Pamela Sivola, representing CMTW, opposed proceeding with sampling. Eloise Bodine, the substitute for Fran Packard of the League of Women Voters abstained. Please see individual Member comments in the transcripts.

VII. Public Comment

A full text of comments made by members of the public is available in the meeting transcript.

The next ESPTF meeting date was set for 17 January 2001 at 6:30PM, location TBD.